

Abstract

Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) specific polypeptides consisting of a series of one to 1000 peptide units selected from the group consisting of peptide units Φ , Γ , Δ and Ω , wherein Φ is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula (α ETFTETWNR Γ FITHTE β) (SEQ ID NO:1), Γ is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula (α GMLEASEGLDGWIHQ β) (SEQ ID NO:2), Δ is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula (α HQQGGWSTLIEDNIP β) (SEQ ID NO:3), Ω is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula (α KQKHPKKVKQAFNPL β) (SEQ ID NO:4), α and β are each independently from 0 to 5 naturally occurring amino acids, and the polypeptide is capable of binding antibody in a specimen from an individual with Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)-associated disease are disclosed. Also disclosed are the use of these polypeptides for the production of polypeptide-specific antibodies and the diagnosis and treatment of EBV-associated disease.